

SPANISH 141: SPAIN TODAY

SPRING QUARTER

1. COURSE INFORMATION

Professor	---	Office	ACCENT Madrid Study Center
E-mail	---	Phone	91 308 59 79
Office hours	1 hour per week or by mutually agreed upon appointments		
Class Schedule	1.5 hours per day, 2 days per week		
Class Location	ACCENT Study Center		
Study Visits	Meeting Point indicated in weekly calendar		

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this class is to better understand today's Spanish culture and civilization, the goal being that the students, through acquiring a wide range of knowledge about historical and current events in Spain, can obtain the tools to become better integrated into Spanish society during their stay in Madrid. The following subject themes will be among those used to get to know the country and its peoples:

- Cultural traditions
- Politics, from dictatorship to democracy, the monarchy today
- Geography, the Autonomies and cultural diversity
- Religion and family values
- Social issues today

Besides the course readings, students are expected to stay updated with current events as much as possible through local media (Spanish and English newspapers: elpais.com, abc.es, elmundo.es, typicallyspanish.com), and to participate in specific visits to places that are relevant to the subjects being studied.

This course is taught in English.

3. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will acquire a holistic understanding of present day Spain.
- Students will be able to participate in meaningful discussions about Spanish culture and politics.
- Students will develop their critical thinking.
- Students will be able to identify similarities and differences between the Spanish and the American social and cultural history.

4. CLASS MATERIALS

Required Materials

All course readings compiled by the professor will be available online at the Madrid At Your Fingertips Student Portal (<http://madrid.accentintl.net>).

Recommended Materials

- Balfour, Sebastian & Alejandro Quiroga. *The Reinvention of Spain: Nation and Identity since Democracy*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007. Print.
- Chislett, William. *Spain, What Everyone Needs to Know*. New York: Oxford UP, 2013. Print.
- Gies, David T., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2000. Print.
- Graham, H. & J. Labanyi, eds. *Spanish Cultural Studies: An Introduction*. New York: Oxford UP, 1995. Print.
- Hooper, John. *The New Spaniards*. London: Penguin, 2006. Print.
- Jordan, Barry and Rikki Morgan-Tamosunas, eds. *Contemporary Spanish Cultural Studies*. London & New York: Arnold, 2000. Print.

- Labanyi, Jo, ed. *Constructing Identity in Contemporary Spain, Theoretical Debates and Cultural Practice*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2000. Print.
- Nichols, William & H. Rosi Song, eds. *Toward a Cultural Archive of La Movida*. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2014. Print.
- Snyder, Jonathan. *Poetics of Opposition in Contemporary Spain: Politics and the Work of Urban Culture*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015. Print.
- Tremlett, Giles. *Ghosts of Spain, Travels Through a Country's Hidden Past*. London: Faber & Faber, 2006. Print.
- Williams, Mark. *The Story of Spain*. Málaga: Santana Books, 1990. Print.

Online Resources

- Spanish Art: <http://www.spanish-art.org/>
- Spanish Culture: <http://www.donquijote.org/culture/spain/>
- Spanish Literature: <http://www.classicspanishbooks.com/>
- Spanish History: <http://www.donquijote.org/culture/spain/history/>

5. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Lectures & Study Visits

Class time will be divided between lectures, workshops, and group discussions in which active student participation is required. Students are expected to read the material assigned for each class in advance to be prepared to contribute to in-class debates.

A class visit is scheduled every Wednesday, taking advantage of Madrid's cultural offering and the calendar of festivals in order to discuss studied themes: Holy Week processions, Dos de Mayo traditions, San Isidro folklore and verbenas, etc.:

- Museo Reina Sofia
- The Royal Palace
- History of Madrid City Museum
- Museo del Prado
- Walking Tour of La Latina / Museum of Origins San Isidro
- Documenting Madrid activity

Urban Labs

Students will undertake three Urban Labs over the course of the term (deadlines listed on the syllabus), which require observation and engagement with Madrid and its residents. After each lab, students will submit an objectively written report on their findings that uses examples to support observations in the paper, avoiding generalizations or stereotypes in the analysis. The exams will presume that students have completed these labs according to schedule.

Urban Labs require students to:

- Map different areas in the city and their relationships to them
- Read a newspaper in Spain
- Talk to Madrid residents about their opinions
- Become a 'regular' at a locale over the term
- Observe people and places actively and analytically
- Document different Madrid neighborhoods
- Write about the host culture in ways that avoid generalizations or stereotypes

The instructions for the Urban Labs, as well as the guided reflection questions for the written report, appear online with the course readings. Labs must be 2 full pages long (Times New Roman, 12 pt., double spaced), printed to submit in class; late submissions will not be graded for credit, except absences excused by policy. Labs will be evaluated using the grading rubric for written work.

Midterm and Final Exams

The midterm and final exams evaluate comprehension of the readings and class discussions. Toward this end, students are encouraged to take handwritten notes of all readings, class discussions, and site visits. The midterm exam will cover the material read and discussed in class up to the date of the exam, but final exam will be comprehensive and will cover all course contents. Both exams will consist of concept definition, fill in the blank, and short essay-type questions, which require students to demonstrate knowledge of specific terms, concepts, and historical landmarks, and to compose their ideas in one or more paragraphs addressing specific topics related to course contents.

Class Attendance & Participation

Attendance and active participation are required. Students are expected to do the readings assigned for each class meeting beforehand, and to actively and significantly participate in class discussions. Participation will be often based on questions asked in class regarding the reading assigned for that day and observations the students might make about current events or personal experiences that are relevant to Spanish society.

6. EVALUATION

The course grade will be determined as follows:

– Urban Labs (3)	30%
– Midterm Exam	20%
– Final Exam	30%
– Class Attendance & Participation	20%

The course numerical grade will be transferred as a letter grade according to the following standard criteria:

A+	98-100	<i>Excellent degree of competence</i>
A	94-97	
A-	91-93	<i>Outstanding degree of competence</i>
B+	88-90	
B	84-87	<i>Good degree of competence</i>
B-	81-83	
C+	78-80	
C	74-78	<i>Adequate degree of competence</i>
C-	71-73	
D+	68-70	
D	64-67	<i>Basic degree of competence</i>
D-	61-63	
F	60 or lower	<i>Failure to demonstrate a basic degree of competence</i>

7. ATTENDANCE POLICY

ACCENT and UC Davis require regular and punctual class attendance. Thus, students are expected to prepare for and attend class regularly, and in case of anticipated or unanticipated absences, to inform the instructor promptly.

Students are allowed a total of two absences during the program. Each absence beyond the limit will result in a deduction of **2 percent points from the student's raw total**. Students will be allowed to complete assignments or examinations in case of an excused absence **due to illness, ACCENT or university approved activities, and major emergencies upon presentation of documentation to the instructor prior to or immediately upon the student's return to class**. However, students will be responsible for all coursework missed due to an unexcused absence. The two absences are not two days of vacation, they are supposed to cover the emergencies and illnesses.

8. CLASS ETIQUETTE

Students studying abroad are ambassadors for the University of California, Davis, and as such, should act with decorum and respect for others at all times. As a participant on the UC Davis Program in Madrid, you are subject to student conduct policies of UC Davis and ACCENT.

Students should seek to play their part in making the class a success. Students should arrive punctually for classes, taking special care to allow for journey times between the various venues. They should come to class with the necessary materials for taking notes, and bringing with them any books or suchlike required for the class. *Students will be responsible for obtaining their own copies of any missed assignments and materials.*

In addition to the one-on-one office hour, students may communicate with professors via e-mail. E-mail interaction should be serious and professional, so students should always address professors appropriately, be clear and concise, and allow up to 24 hours for a response (excluding weekends and holidays).

Food and drink may NOT be brought into the classroom or consumed during class. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be switched off upon entering the classroom or lecture room.

9. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students should remember that they are still subject to the academic integrity provisions of the University of California, Davis. The principle of honesty must be upheld if the integrity of scholarship is to be maintained by an academic community.

This means that all academic work—research papers, exams, and/or other assignments—will be done by the student to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

For more information, please consult UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html>.

10. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

UC Davis and ACCENT are committed to facilitating welcoming and reasonably accessible programs. Any student who because of a disability may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirement should present appropriate verification from the UC Davis Student Disability Center, and should meet with ACCENT Madrid Director upon arrival to confirm the approved accommodations.

No requirement exists that accommodations be made prior to completion of this approved university procedure. Disability status is confidential and should always be discussed in private.

For more information, please consult the Official website for UC Davis Student Disability Center at <https://sdc.ucdavis.edu>.

11. COURSE CALENDAR

Date	Class Contents, Readings & Film Screenings	Coursework Due & Study Visits
WEEK 1	<p>Introduction: History & Geography</p> <p>Political maps & Geography of Spain</p> <p>Berdichevsky, "Spain's Languages & Regional Diversity"</p>	
WEEK 2	<p>Las Tres Culturas, Past & Present: From Medieval Iberia to 21st C. Spain</p> <p>Berdichevsky, "Las tres culturas" & "The Reconquest and Expulsion of the Jews and Moors"</p>	
WEEK 2	<p>Guernica & The Long 20th Century: The Spanish Civil War (1936-39) & Franco's Dictatorship (1939-75)</p> <p>Hooper, "From Hunger to Prosperity" & "From Dictatorship to Democracy"</p>	Study Visit to Palacio Real
WEEK 3	<p>Gender, Sexuality & Family in Post-Franco Spain</p> <p>Hooper, "Sex: From Francoist Prudery to Gay Marriages" & "Machismo Meltdown"</p>	
WEEK 3	<p>The Monarchy in Democracy</p> <p>Hooper, "An Engaging Monarchy"</p>	<p>Study Visit to Museo del Prado</p> <p><i>**Holy Week procession at Iglesia Sta. Cruz to follow (optional)</i></p>
WEEK 4	<p>Autonomous Communities: National & Regional Politics</p> <p>Hooper, "Autonomy in Action"</p> <p>Richards, "Collective memory, the nation-state, and post-Franco society"</p>	Urban Lab #1 Due
WEEK 4	<p>Religion</p> <p>Hooper, "Belief and the Church: Emptying Pews"</p>	Study Visit to Museo Municipal de Madrid
WEEK 5	<p>Diversity & Prejudice</p> <p>Corkill, "Race, immigration, and Multiculturalism in Spain"</p> <p>Berdichevsky, "The Migrant Impact in Spain"</p>	Workshop: Students are to attend class with their choice of news article for Urban Lab #2
WEEK 5	<p>The Arts & Culture</p> <p>Hooper, "A Cultural Revolution"</p>	Study Visit to Museo Reina Sofia
WEEK 6	<p>National Holiday: Día del Trabajador (Labor Day)</p> <p>No class today. Self-guided make-up assignment in place of regular class session.</p>	
WEEK 6	<p>MIDTERM EXAM</p>	

WEEK 7	Folklore & Popular Traditions Hooper, “Changing Traditions: Flamenco & Bullfighting” Film Viewing: <i>Esencia de verbena</i> (1930) by Giménez Caballero	Urban Lab #2 Due
WEEK 7	Fiestas & Verbenas Berdichevsky, “Fiestas: Moors & Christians” & “Semana Santa & Spain’s National Day	Study Visit to Museo San Isidro / La Latina
WEEK 8	City Holiday: San Isidro, Madrid’s Patron Saint No class today. Self-guided make-up assignment in place of regular class session.	
WEEK 8	Café Culture, Bars & Public Spaces Hooper, “Living on the Edge”	Urban Lab #3 Due
WEEK 9 **Double session**	Madrid Today Snyder, “Las crisis”	Documenting Madrid: Activity
WEEK 9	No class **Double session on May 22nd**	
WEEK 10	Course Conclusions Workshop: Discussion of activity	
WEEK 10	FINAL EXAM	

NOTE: This syllabus is tentative and subject to change based on the needs of the course. Changes, if any, will be discussed in class in advance, and announced to the students and to the coordination office.